

# Mass and $K\Lambda$ coupling of $N^*(1535)$

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## Abstract

Using resonance isobar model and effective Lagrangian approach, from recent BES results on  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$  and  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$ , we deduce the ratio between effective coupling constants of  $N^*(1535)$  to  $K\Lambda$  and  $p\eta$  to be  $R \equiv g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}/g_{N^*(1535)p\eta} = 1.3 \pm 0.3$ . With previous known value of  $g_{N^*(1535)p\eta}$ , the obtained new value of  $g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}$  is shown to reproduce recent  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$  near-threshold cross section data as well. Taking into account this large  $N^*K\Lambda$  coupling in the coupled channel Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$ , its Breit-Wigner mass is found to be around 1400 MeV, much smaller than previous value of about 1535 MeV obtained without including its coupling to  $K\Lambda$ . The implication on the nature of  $N^*(1535)$  is discussed.

The properties and the nature of the lowest spin-1/2 negative parity ( $J^P = 1/2^-$ ) nucleon resonance  $N^*(1535)$  are of great interests in many aspects of light hadron physics. In conventional constituent quark models, the lowest  $1/2^-$   $N^*$  resonance should be the first  $L = 1$  orbital excitation state. But it has been a long-standing problem for these conventional constituent quark models to explain why the mass of  $N^*(1535)$  has a mass higher than the lowest  $J^P = 1/2^+$  radial excitation state  $N^*(1440)$  [1]. This was used to argue in favor of the Goldstone-boson exchange quark models [2]. In the recent Jaffe-Wilczek diquark picture [3] for the  $\theta$  pentaquark, a  $J^P = 1/2^-$   $N^*$  pentaquark of mass around 1460 MeV is expected [4]. Another outstanding property of the  $N^*(1535)$  is its extraordinary strong coupling to  $\eta N$  [5], which lead to a suggestion that it is a quasi-bound ( $K\Sigma$ - $K\Lambda$ )-state [6]. This picture predicts also large effective couplings of  $N^*(1535)$  to  $K\Lambda$  and  $K\Sigma$  [7]. Experiment knowledge on these kaon-hyperon couplings is poor, partly because lack of data on experimental side and partly due to the complication of various interfering t-channel exchange contributions [8]. Better knowledge on these couplings is definitely useful for understanding the nature of  $N^*(1535)$ , the underneath quark dynamics, and also the strangeness production in relativistic heavy-ion collisions as a signature of the quark-gluon plasma [9, 10, 11].

Recently various  $N^*$  production processes from  $J/\psi$  decays have been investigated by BES collaboration [12, 13, 14, 15]. In the  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$  [12, 13] and  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda + c.c.$  [14, 15] reactions, there are clear peak structures with  $J^P = 1/2^-$  in the  $p\eta$  and  $K\Lambda$  invariant mass spectra around  $p\eta$  and  $K\Lambda$  thresholds. A nature source for the peak structures is  $N^*(1535)$  coupling to  $N\eta$  and  $K\Lambda$ . In this letter, assuming the  $1/2^-$   $K\Lambda$  threshold peak to be dominantly from the tail of the  $N^*(1535)$ , we deduce the ratio between effective coupling constants of  $N^*(1535)$  to  $K\Lambda$  and  $p\eta$ ,  $R \equiv g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}/g_{N^*(1535)p\eta}$  from the new branching ratio results from BES experiment on  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$  and  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$ , then check the compatibility with recent  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$  near-threshold data [16, 17]. Taking into account the large  $N^*K\Lambda$  coupling in the coupled channel Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$ , we show it gives a very large influence to the Breit-Wigner mass of the  $N^*(1535)$ .

In the effective Lagrangian approach for the resonance isobar model, the Feynman diagram for  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$  through  $N^*(1535)$  intermediate is shown in Fig.1. For  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$ , besides a similar diagram through  $N^*(1535)$ , a diagram through  $\bar{N}^*(1535)$  should be added

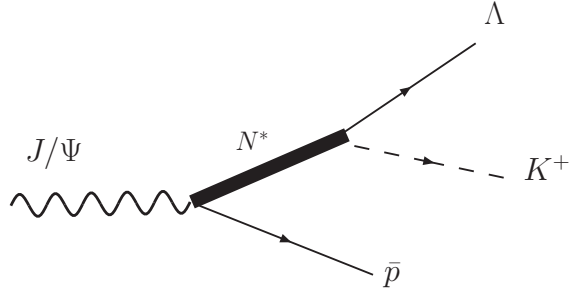


FIG. 1: Feynman diagram for  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$  through  $N^*$  resonance

simultaneously. The relevant interaction Lagrangians are [18, 19]

$$\mathcal{L}_{N^*\Lambda K} = -ig_{N^*\Lambda K}\bar{\Psi}_\Lambda\Phi_K\Psi_{N^*} + h.c., \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{N^*N\eta} = -ig_{N^*N\eta}\bar{\Psi}_N\Phi_\eta\Psi_{N^*} + h.c., \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\psi NN^*}^{(1)} = \frac{ig_T}{M_{N^*} + M_p}\bar{\Psi}_{N^*}\gamma_5\sigma_{\mu\nu}p_\psi^\nu\Psi_N\varepsilon^\mu + h.c., \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\psi NN^*}^{(2)} = -g_V\bar{\Psi}_{N^*}\gamma_5\gamma_\mu\Psi_N\varepsilon^\mu + h.c. \quad (4)$$

where  $\Psi_{N^*}$  represents the resonance  $N^*(1535)$  with mass  $M_{N^*}$ ,  $\Psi_N$  for proton with mass  $M_p$  and  $\varepsilon^\mu$  for  $J/\psi$  with four-momentum  $p_\psi$ . According to [13], the  $\mathcal{L}_{\psi NN^*}^{(2)}$  term given by Eq.(4) makes insignificant contribution for  $N^*(1535)$ , hence we drop this kind of coupling in our calculation. The amplitudes for  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$  and  $\bar{p}p\eta$  via  $N^*(1535)$  resonance are then

$$M_{\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda} = \frac{ig_T g_{N^*K\Lambda}}{M_{N^*} + M_p} \bar{u}(p_\Lambda, s_\Lambda)(\not{p}_{N^*} + m_{N^*})BW(p_{N^*})\gamma_5\sigma_{\mu\nu}p_\psi^\nu\varepsilon^\mu v(p_{\bar{p}}, s_{\bar{p}}), \quad (5)$$

$$M_{\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta} = \frac{ig_T g_{N^*N\eta}}{M_{N^*} + M_p} \bar{u}(p_p, s_p)[(\not{p}_{N^*} + m_{N^*})BW(p_{N^*})\gamma_5\sigma_{\mu\nu}p_\psi^\nu\varepsilon^\mu + \gamma_5\sigma_{\mu\nu}p_\psi^\nu\varepsilon^\mu(-\not{p}_{\bar{N}^*} + m_{N^*})BW(p_{\bar{N}^*})]v(p_{\bar{p}}, s_{\bar{p}}), \quad (6)$$

respectively. Here  $BW(p_{N^*})$  is the Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$  resonance

$$BW(p_{N^*}) = \frac{1}{M_{N^*}^2 - s - iM_{N^*}\Gamma_{N^*}(s)} \quad (7)$$

with  $s = p_{N^*}^2$ . According to PDG [5], the dominant decay channels for the  $N^*(1535)$  are  $N\pi$  and  $N\eta$ . For a resonance with mass close to some threshold of its dominant decay channel, the approximation of a constant width is not very good. Since the  $N^*(1535)$  is quite close to the  $\eta N$  threshold, we take the commonly used phase space dependent width for the resonance as the following

$$\Gamma_{N^*}(s) = \Gamma_{N^*}^0 \left( 0.5 \frac{\rho_{\pi N}(s)}{\rho_{\pi N}(M_{N^*}^2)} + 0.5 \frac{\rho_{\eta N}(s)}{\rho_{\eta N}(M_{N^*}^2)} \right) = \Gamma_{N^*}^0 [0.8\rho_{\pi N}(s) + 2.1\rho_{\eta N}(s)], \quad (8)$$

where  $\rho_{\pi N}(s)$  and  $\rho_{\eta N}(s)$  are the phase space factors for  $\pi N$  and  $\eta N$  final states, respectively, e.g.,

$$\rho_{\eta N}(s) = \frac{2q_{\eta N}(s)}{\sqrt{s}} = \frac{\sqrt{(s - (M_N + M_\eta)^2)(s - (M_N - M_\eta)^2)}}{s} \quad (9)$$

where  $q_{\eta N}$  is the momentum of  $\eta$  or  $N$  in the center-of-mass system of  $\eta N$ . According to PDG [5],  $M_{N^*} \approx 1535 \text{ MeV}$  and  $\Gamma_{N^*}^0 = \Gamma_{N^*}(M_{N^*}^2) \approx 150 \text{ MeV}$ .

From the amplitudes given above, we can calculate the decay widths of  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$  and  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$  via  $N^*(1535)$  resonance, and get their ratio as

$$\frac{\Gamma(\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}N^* \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda)}{\Gamma(\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}N^* + p\bar{N}^* \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta)} = \frac{1}{12.6} \left| \frac{g_{N^*K\Lambda}}{g_{N^*N\eta}} \right|^2. \quad (10)$$

On the other hand, from PDG and recent BES results, we have  $J/\psi$  decay branching ratio for the  $\bar{p}K^+\Lambda$  channel as  $(0.89 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-3}$  [5] with  $(15 \sim 22)\%$  [15] via the near threshold  $N^*$  resonance and for the  $\bar{p}p\eta$  channel as  $(2.09 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-3}$  [5] with  $(56 \pm 15)\%$  [13] via the  $N^*(1535)$  resonance. Therefore

$$\frac{\Gamma(\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}N^* \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda)}{\Gamma(\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}N^* + p\bar{N}^* \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta)} = \frac{(0.89 \pm 0.16) \times (15 \sim 22)}{(2.09 \pm 0.18) \times (56 \pm 15)}. \quad (11)$$

From Eq(10) and Eq(11), we get

$$R \equiv \left| \frac{g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}}{g_{N^*(1535)N\eta}} \right| \approx 1.3 \pm 0.3. \quad (12)$$

Previous knowledge on this ratio from  $\pi N \rightarrow K\Lambda$  and  $\gamma N \rightarrow K\Lambda$  reactions is poor. While Ref.[8] gave a range of  $0.8 \sim 2.6$ , others found the contribution from the  $N^*(1535)$  is not important for reproducing the data [11]. It seems that those data are not sensitive to the  $N^*(1535)$  contribution due to the complication of various interfering t-channel contributions which are absent in the  $J/\psi$  decays. Another relevant reaction is  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$ . Some very precise near-threshold data are now available from COSY experiments [16, 17]. In the following we will check the compatibility of the large  $R$  value given by Eq.(12) with the recent  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$  near-threshold data.

The relevant Feynman diagrams for the process  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$  are shown in Fig.2. Since we are mainly interested in the near-threshold behavior where contribution from  $\pi$  and  $\eta$  meson exchange dominates [20], here for simplicity we ignore the small contribution from heavier mesons. We adopt the relevant effective Lagrangian and form factors used in Ref. [20].

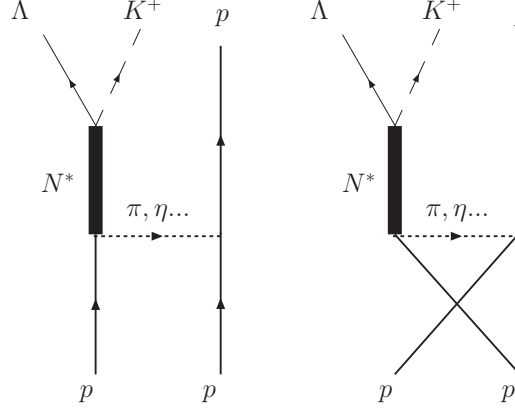


FIG. 2: Feynman diagrams for reaction  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$

First we have reproduced the results of Ref.[20] by including  $N^*(1650)1/2^-$ ,  $N^*(1710)1/2^+$  and  $N^*(1720)3/2^+$  resonances. Their prediction prior COSY data [16, 17] is shown by the dotted line in Fig.3, which is obviously underestimating the near-threshold data of COSY. In their work, all parameters have been fixed by previous study on other relevant reactions. A natural reason for the underestimation is their ignorance of the contribution from  $N^*(1535)$ . Here we calculate the contribution from  $N^*(1535)1/2^-$  for the process. The coupling constants for the vertices  $N^*(1535)N\pi$  and  $N^*(1535)N\eta$  are determined by the relevant partial decay width [5]. Then the coupling constant for the  $N^*K\Lambda$  is obtained by our new result  $|g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}/g_{N^*(1535)N\eta}| = 1.3$  from BES data. The result is shown by the dashed line in Fig.3 (left). Adding the contribution to the previous results of Ref.[20], the solid line in Fig.3 (left) reproduces the COSY near-threshold data very well. So the ratio given by Eq.(12) is also compatible with the data on  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$ . Note we have not introduce any free parameters in this calculation.

The large  $|g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}/g_{N^*(1535)N\eta}|$  ratio has important implications on other properties of the  $N^*(1535)$ . First, in previous calculations, the coupling of  $N^*(1535)$  to  $K\Lambda$  channel is usually ignored in the Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$ . Considering this coupling, the width in its Breit-Wigner formula should be

$$\Gamma_{N^*}(s) = \Gamma_{N^*}^0 [0.8\rho_{\pi N}(s) + 2.1\rho_{\eta N}(s) + 3.5\rho_{\Lambda K}(s)] \quad (13)$$

instead of Eq.(8). In order to give a similar Breit-Wigner amplitude squared  $|BW(p_{N^*})|^2$  as using Eq.(8) with  $M_{N^*} = 1535MeV$  and  $\Gamma_{N^*}^0 = 150MeV$ , we need  $M_{N^*} \approx 1400MeV$  and

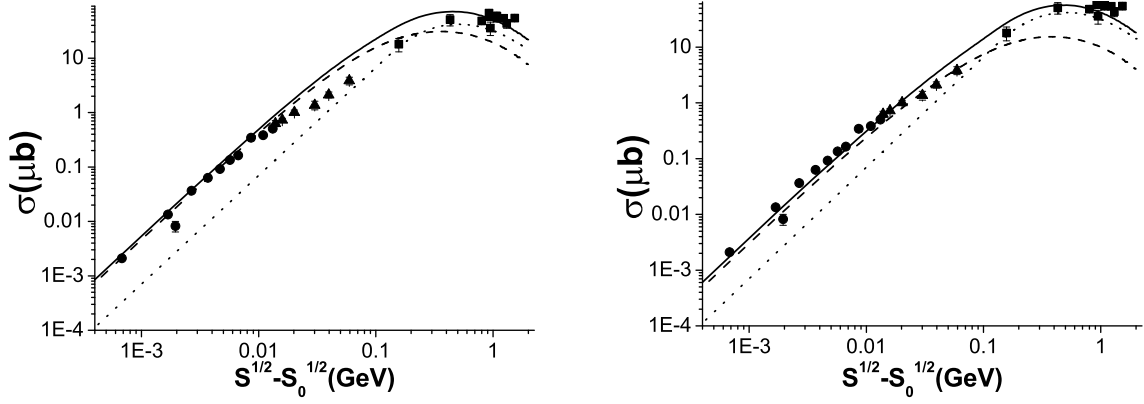


FIG. 3: The cross section of the reaction  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$  as a function of the excess energy with data from Refs.[16] (circle), [17] (triangle) and [21] (square). The dashed and dotted lines represent the contribution from  $N^*(1535)$  and other  $N^*$  resonances, respectively. The solid line is the sum. The left and right graphs are the results without and with including  $\Lambda K$  term in the  $\Gamma_{N^*}(s)$  for  $N^*(1535)$ .

$\Gamma_{N^*}^0 = 270 MeV$  when using Eq.(13). Note that the two-body phase space factors  $\rho_{\eta N}(s)$  and  $\rho_{\Lambda K}(s)$  are extended to below their corresponding thresholds to be pure imaginary as the Flatté formulation for  $f_0(980)$  meson [22].

In Fig.4, we show the Breit-wigner amplitude squared vs  $s^{1/2}$  for the two cases without (dashed line) and with (dotted line)  $\Lambda K$  channel contribution included in the energy-dependent width for the  $N^*(1535)$ . As a comparison, we also show the case assuming a constant width  $\Gamma_{N^*}(s) = 98 MeV$  with  $M_{N^*} = 1515 MeV$  (solid line). The three kinds of parametrization for the  $N^*(1535)$  amplitude give a similar amplitude squared, hence do not influence much on previous calculations on various processes involving the  $N^*(1535)$  resonance by using the Breit-Wigner formula without including the  $\Lambda K$  channel in the width. As an example, we show in Fig.3 (right) the results including the  $\Lambda K$  channel in  $\Gamma_{N^*}(s)$ . Comparing results in Fig.3 (left) without including the  $\Lambda K$  channel in  $\Gamma_{N^*}(s)$ , while the fit to the data for the energies between 10 MeV and 400 MeV improves a little bit, the overall shape looks very similar. However, the important point is that by including the large  $N^* K \Lambda$  coupling in the coupled channel Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$ , its Breit-Wigner mass is reduced to be around 1400 MeV, much smaller than previous value of about 1535

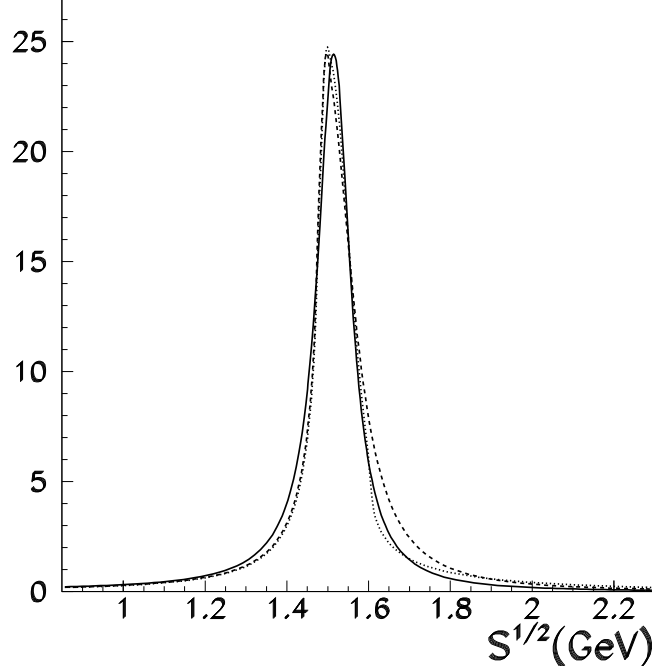


FIG. 4: Breit-wigner amplitude squared vs  $s^{1/2}$  with a constant width (solid line), energy-dependent width without (dashed line) and with (dotted line)  $\Lambda K$  channel contribution included.

MeV obtained without including its coupling to  $K\Lambda$ . This will have important implication on various model calculations on its mass.

The second important implication of the large  $N^*K\Lambda$  coupling is that the  $N^*(1535)$  should have large  $s\bar{s}$  component in its wave function. It has been suggested to be a quasi-bound ( $K\Sigma$ - $K\Lambda$ )-state [6]. Based on this picture, the effective coupling of  $N^*(1535)$  to  $K\Lambda$  is predicted to be about  $0.5 \sim 0.7$  times of that for  $N^*(1535)$  to  $\eta N$  [7], which is about a factor 2 smaller than the value obtained here. Alternatively, the strangeness may mix into the  $N^*(1535)$  in the form of some pentaquark configuration [23]. According to Ref.[23], the  $[4]_X[31]_{FS}[211]_F[22]_S(qqq s\bar{s})$  pentaquark configuration has the largest negative flavor-spin dependent hyperfine interaction for  $1/2^-$   $N^*$  resonance. Hence the  $1/2^-$   $N^*(1535)$  resonance may have much larger  $(qqqs\bar{s})$  pentaquark configuration than  $1/2^+$   $N^*$  resonances, for which the penta-quark configurations with the largest negative flavor-spin dependent hyperfine interaction are non-strange ones, such as  $[31]_X[4]_{FS}[22]_F[22]_S(qqqq\bar{q})$  configuration [23]. This will result in a large  $N^*K\Lambda$  coupling. A concrete calculation in this picture should be very useful for understanding the nature of the  $N^*(1535)$ . A recent study of the strangeness in the proton [24] suggests that the strangeness in the nucleon and its excited states  $N^*$  are

most likely in the form of pentaquark instead of meson-cloud configurations.

Another implication of the large  $N^*(1535)K\Lambda$  coupling is that many previous calculations on various  $K\Lambda$  production processes without including this coupling properly should be re-examined. A proper treatment of the  $N^*(1535)$  contribution may help to extract properties of other  $N^*$  resonances more reliably.

In summary, from the recent BES data on  $J/\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}p\eta$  and  $\psi \rightarrow \bar{p}K^+\Lambda$ , the  $g_{N^*(1535)K\Lambda}/g_{N^*(1535)p\eta}$  ratio is deduced to be  $1.3 \pm 0.3$  which is also compatible with data from  $pp \rightarrow pK^+\Lambda$ ,  $\pi p \rightarrow K\Lambda$  and  $\gamma p \rightarrow K\Lambda$  processes. By including the large  $N^*(1535)K\Lambda$  coupling into the Breit-Wigner formula for the  $N^*(1535)$ , a much lower Breit-Wigner mass ( $\sim 1400 MeV$ ) is obtained for the  $N^*(1535)$ . These new properties have important implication on the nature of the lowest negative-parity  $N^*$  resonance. The  $N^*(1535)1/2^-$  could be the lowest  $L = 1$  orbital excited ( $3q$ ) state with a large admixture of  $[4]_X[31]_{FS}[211]_F[22]_S(qqq\bar{s})$  pentaquark component while the  $N^*(1440)$  could be the lowest radial excited ( $3q$ ) state with a large admixture of  $[31]_X[4]_{FS}[22]_F[22]_S(qqqq\bar{q})$  pentaquark component. While the lowest  $L = 1$  orbital excited ( $3q$ ) state should have a mass lower than the lowest radial excited ( $3q$ ) state, the  $(qqq\bar{s})$  pentaquark component has a higher mass than  $(qqqq\bar{q})$  pentaquark component. This makes the  $N^*(1535)$  having an almost degenerate mass with the  $N^*(1440)$ .

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